



SEATTLE OPERA  
SPEIGHT JENKINS GENERAL DIRECTOR

NEWS

**For Immediate Release**

**Seattle Opera Youth Chorus For *Lohengrin*  
Sings National Anthem For Mariners' July 15 Celebration Of  
Safeco Field's Fifth Anniversary**

Seattle—Seattle Opera singers were part of the opening festivities at Safeco Field in 1999, and now for the fifth anniversary, eight members of Seattle Opera's *Lohengrin* youth chorus will sing the National Anthem for the Mariners' July 15 game against the Cleveland Indians. The children singing the National Anthem will be Aniko Fisch (daughter of *Lohengrin* conductor Asher Fisch), Alex Gall, Brent Gallo, Emma Grimsley (daughter of bass-baritone Greer Grimsley, who sings Telramund in the production), Kayla Johnson, Dominic Lewis, Chloe Mollis-McBride, and Nellie Sommer. The youth chorus will be led in the National Anthem by Beth Kirchhoff, Seattle Opera chorusmaster.

Seattle Opera's production of Wagner's *Lohengrin* features one of the largest choruses of the season, with 79 singers in the adult chorus and eight children in the youth chorus. Seattle Opera's chorus is led by Kirchhoff, with assistance from Elizabeth Moore, vocal coach for the youth chorus. *Lohengrin* opens July 31 at Marion Oliver McCaw Hall and runs through August 21.

Seattle Opera's long run at SAFECO Field began July 15, 1999, when soprano Deborah Voigt and tenor Gary Lakes opened the ballpark with the National Anthem. In subsequent years, Seattle Opera singers have made frequent appearances at the ballpark, including singing more than 20 National Anthems in 2003 season. This season, two members of Seattle Opera's Young Artists Program, soprano Maria D'Amato and baritone Michael Todd Simpson, sang the National Anthem for the Mariners' Opening Day game. In May, *Seattle Times* sports columnist Steve Kelley picked "any rendition by any member of the Seattle Opera" as one of his favorite performances of the National Anthem at a sports venue.

(over)

# **LOHENGRIN**

Music and libretto by Richard Wagner  
In German with English Captions

**Marion Oliver McCaw Hall, Seattle, Washington**

**EIGHT PERFORMANCES: JULY 31, AUGUST 3, 6, 9, 12, 15 (MATINEE), 18, AND 21, 2004**

Approximate Running Time: 4 hours, 20 minutes, including 2 intermissions

All evening performances of *Lohengrin* begin at 7:00 p.m., the matinee at 2:00 p.m.

Single ticket prices: \$47 to \$123

Seattle Opera Ticket Office: 206-389-7676/ 800-426-1619

Online Orders: [www.seattleopera.org](http://www.seattleopera.org)

## **ARTISTS**

Lohengrin: Albert Bonnema†

Elsa: Marie Plette

Ortrud: Jane Eaglen

Telramund: Greer Grimsley

King Heinrich: Gidon Saks†

Royal Herald: Gordon Hawkins

Four Nobles: John Uhlenhopp, Gary Simpson, David Crawford†, Jon Kolbet†

Conductor: Asher Fisch

Director: Stephen Wadsworth

Set Designer: Thomas Lynch

Costume Designer: Martin Pakledinaz

Lighting Designer: Peter Kaczorowski

Hair and Makeup Designer: Joyce Degenfelder

English Captions: Jonathan Dean

Scenery: Built by Seattle Opera (1994)

Costumes: Built by Seattle Opera (1994)

† Seattle Opera debut

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Founded in 1963, Seattle Opera has developed into one of the leading opera companies in the United States. The company is recognized internationally for its theatrically compelling and musically accomplished performances, especially the Opera's interpretations of the works of Richard Wagner.

Seattle Opera is grateful to the following organizations for their steadfast major institutional support: 4Culture, ArtsFund, Bank of America, The Boeing Company, Classical KING-FM 98.1, Charles E. Stuart Charitable Foundation, The James and Sherry Raisbeck Singers Endowment, Kreielsheimer Foundation, Mayor's Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, Microsoft, National Endowment for the Arts, Nesholm Family Foundation, PONCHO, Seattle Opera Guild, and Washington State Arts Commission. Seattle Opera is a participant in the Seattle Arts Stabilization Project, a joint venture of the Seattle Arts Stabilization Committee and the National Arts Stabilization Fund. The 2004/05 season is sponsored by Microsoft.